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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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* The present document was submitted late because the exchange of correspondence with non-governmental organizations to obtain clear and complete applications took longer than anticipated.

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American Association of Retired Persons

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

Introductory statement

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is a non-profit, non-partisan, grass-roots association dedicated to shaping and enriching the experience of ageing for our members and for all society. Founded in 1958 by retired educator Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, the Association is the largest organization of mid-life and older persons, with more than 34 million members worldwide.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

1995

- The AARP President-elect headed the AARP delegation to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and participated in a panel discussion of intergenerational issues. The Association sponsored a workshop at the NGO forum on older women's issues, and participated in caucuses in both the governmental and non-governmental conferences.
- A workshop on population ageing in Europe and North America was held jointly by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and AARP in Geneva. The workshop developed recommendations reflective of the ageing populations in the ECE region that were then sent to the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD).
- AARP, the Japan Society and the secretariat of the World Summit for Social Development co-sponsored a symposium in New York on the theme "Older workers: their place in the changing global economy".

1996

- Co-sponsored the international symposium on the theme "Inspite of poverty ... the older population builds towards the future", in recognition of the United Nations International Year for the Eradication of Poverty. Partners included the African-American Institute and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). The symposium was hosted by the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations in March.
- Organized the Geneva International Network on Ageing in partnership with the Swiss Programme on Gerontology and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- Sponsored and participated in the first celebration of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) ever held in Geneva on 1 October.
- Financially supported and participated in the ECE workshop on the theme "Poverty and ageing", which took place in Geneva on 4-6 November.
- Sponsored and participated in the United Nations Population Division working group on the theme "Projecting old age mortality", held on 3-5 December in New York.

- Began preparations for the International Year of Older Persons (IYOP) in 1999 through the creation of "COALITION '99", an international database of NGOs, United Nations missions and embassies in the United States.
- Launched "COALITION '99 UPDATE", a publication clearinghouse of events, issues and experiences in preparation for the International Year. The "UPDATE" was published in English, French and Spanish four times a year.
- Attended Habitat Forum II, as well as being accredited to the Government Conference in June 1996 in Istanbul.

1997

- Provided staff support and participated in the World Health Organization (WHO) consultation "Health for All" in Geneva in May 1997.
- Gave staff support to WHO for the WHO Djakarta Meeting on "Health for All", held on 18-26 July.
- Transferred the United Nations sanctioned Banyan Fund from France and incorporated it in the United States.
- Began working with the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations Secretariat on the official poster for the IYOP that AARP pledged to fund for the United Nations.
- Co-sponsored the international symposium entitled, "Longevity and Health: A Challenge and Investment in the Future", with Pan-American Health Organization and HelpAge International. This symposium explored how life-long preparation can positively influence the health of future generations and societies worldwide. Panellists included representatives of the International Labour Organization (ILO), regarding child labour, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the life continuum: Girl Child to Older Women.
- Provided staff support to the United Nations Secretariat Division for the Advancement of Women for the Caregiving Conference held in Malta to assist in the writing of the report in December 1997.

1998

- Conducted a global postcard campaign among older persons eliciting their views on the meaning of human rights, particularly from the vantage point of later life. The Human Rights Postcard Campaign was completed in collaboration with the United Nations Programme on Ageing in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. The photographs on the postcards corresponded to the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. The resulting booklet was published in English, French and Spanish and was distributed to all members of the Commission for Social Development, as well as being widely disseminated among international NGOs.
- Met with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Developed and signed a memorandum of understanding that covered the Culture of Peace and Lifelong Learning and the partnership of AARP and UNESCO in both efforts. The memorandum was to be in effect until 2000.

- Presented the official IYOP Poster to the United Nations Secretary-General on 1 October, the official kick-off for the designated Year. Donated 100,000 copies to DPI for worldwide distribution. AARP distributed some 30,000 posters over the coming year to the international NGO community.

- Assumed the publication and dissemination of the "Countdown to 1999", the United Nations Programme on Ageing newsletter. Translated "Countdown to 1999" into French and Spanish, as well as English, and distributed it with the "COALITION '99 UPDATE" four times a year.

- Financially and otherwise supported the start-up of the United States Federal Committee on IYOP by sponsoring speakers from the United Nations and by creating and printing the IYOP Brochure for the United States Federal Committee. Supplies of the brochure were also sent to the United Nations Programme on Ageing for their use as an example of a Government focal point effort that could be copied by other Governments.

- Supported the Geneva International Network on Ageing celebration of IYOP and the kick-off of IYOP at the United Nations in Geneva on 2 October.

Other relevant activities

AARP has funded and staffed a three-person office in New York since 1993 dedicated to working with the United Nations and other NGOs on the business of the United Nations as it relates to the issue of ageing. Since 1992, AARP has also retained the service of a consultant to monitor United Nations and United Nations agency activities in Geneva, Switzerland. These representatives, supplemented by staff from headquarters, represent AARP at meetings of United Nations commissions, international conferences, expert group meetings, meetings of the specialized agencies and other meetings as required. With HelpAge International, AARP has sponsored seminars since 1992 for NGOs from Eastern and Central Europe, who work on behalf of older persons, resulting in a formal network of NGOs called the East and Central European Network. The seminars focus on capacity-building and the building of national networks of senior organizations. AARP continues to participate in a group of endorsing organizations to work towards United States approval of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

International Association of Soldiers for Peace

Internal functioning of the Association

Two international conferences have been organized:

- **from 19 to 23 May 1995, in Lyons**

For the first time, former "Blue Helmets" of seven nationalities (Danish, Finnish, French, British, Irish, Norwegian and Swedish) came together and discussed two themes: "Former Blue Helmets and the problem of peacekeeping and the United Nations" and "Former Blue Helmets: how to take action at the international level?"

• **13 and 14 September 1998, in Lyons and Geneva**

The delegations which had attended the 1995 meeting were joined in Lyons and Geneva by delegations from the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Letters of support were received from Canada and Ghana.

The meeting in Geneva was officially included among the events celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of peacekeeping operations. A reception for delegations and a round-table discussion were organized by Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva; also present were Mr. Laurent Attar-Bayrou, President of the International Association of Soldiers for Peace (IASP), and three former "Blue Helmets" of different nationalities.

Staffing

A permanent full-time position of International Coordinator has been created at our international headquarters in Lyons.

Help in establishing associations of "Blue Helmets" in Ukraine and the Russian Federation

The Ukrainian Peacekeepers Veterans Association (UPVA) signed an agreement with IASP on 15 July 1998. IASP had provided help and support in the establishment of UPVA and was glad to welcome it into its ranks on the occasion of its second international conference.

The Russian peacekeepers' association signed an agreement with IASP in September 1998.

Worldwide contacts and promotion of the creation of "Blue Helmets" associations

IASP has contacted all the embassies located in France and permanent missions to the United Nations in order to encourage the corresponding States to create associations of "Blue Helmets".

IASP is in contact with "Blue Helmets" in countries where no such association exists, in order to help them to live in accordance with their status and to motivate them to set up local associations. Activities of this type have already met with success in Ukraine, and contacts have been made with a view to creating associations in other countries.

We currently have contacts in Ghana, Senegal, Kenya, Pakistan, India, Israel, Canada, the United States of America, Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Hungary and Slovakia.

IASP regularly publishes a magazine in English which is distributed to members, affiliated associations and United Nations peacekeeping personnel on mission. It contains information on current peacekeeping missions, events relating to the United Nations and the life of IASP and its affiliated associations.

Internal newsletter

A monthly "IASP Newsletter" helps to establish and strengthen relations among affiliated associations.

Relations with the United Nations

Partnership with the United Nations Volunteers

A declaration of intent has been signed by IASP and the United Nations Volunteers, providing for the sharing of information and help with recruiting qualified personnel for emergency programmes and for the possible organization of training programmes. In that context, IASP maintains a file containing the names of individuals who can be contacted on request by the United Nations Volunteers programme.

1998 — fiftieth anniversary of peacekeeping operations

On 14 September 1998, IASP organized a meeting of "Blue Helmets" in Geneva. It also took part in a round-table discussion on peacekeeping operations attended by Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Mr. Izmat Kittani, Under-Secretary-General and Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Susan de Souza of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Ms. Gastaut of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations, Mr. Dimitri Borodinov, representing the Ukrainian association of "Blue Helmets", Mr. Walter Meijer, representing the Swedish association of "Blue Helmets", and seven other "Blue Helmets" from Norway, Denmark, the Russian Federation, Ireland, Finland and Ghana.

Role in welcoming Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali to Lyons

In 1997, together with the City of Lyons and the Institut des Hautes Etudes de la Défense Nationale, IASP was involved in welcoming Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, on his visit to Lyons.

Role in organizing the session of UNCTAD in Lyons

In November 1998, IASP was involved in facilitating contacts between the City of Lyons and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), received deliveries by lorry, and set up a stand at the entrance to the venue of the session, enabling the United Nations bookshop to sell its publications.

Role in welcoming the G7 to Lyons

When the Group of Seven industrialized nations visited Lyons, IASP was involved in setting up the exhibition on the United Nations.

Visit to New York

A one-week visit to United Nations Headquarters was organized, during which meetings were held with the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and representatives of the Secretary-General.

Visits to Geneva

Many visits to the United Nations Office at Geneva have been organized by members of the Bureau and IASP members.

Humanitarian activities

A school for Cambodia

From 21 August to 1 October 1995, three classrooms were built in Svayrieng by IASP members. Only the three classrooms were available to accommodate 1,500 students, since 20 others had been destroyed or had become unusable. Having returned to France, the IASP members organized a photography exhibition to raise awareness among the French population of the problems of Cambodia. The budget for the mission, US$ 15,000, came from public funding and private donations.

Operation "100 kilometres for peace"

In winter 1995, five lorries containing 38 tons of food supplies and equipment were sent to Jablanica in Bosnia. One thousand books were sent to a Sarajevo library. Five other journeys were made to Bosnia, in order to provide food supplies and equipment.

A Package for a Peacekeeper

Thanks to an operation entitled "A Package for a Peacekeeper", 15,000 packages were sent to "Blue Helmets" serving in Bosnia and Lebanon as gifts for Christmas and the New Year. Every year, this operation has been funded through appeals for donations from individuals, enterprises and associations. Each package contains country-style food items and items provided by IASP.

IASP-Mines

In April 1996, IASP set up a branch specializing in mine-clearance matters.

Establishment of mine-clearance teams

IASP-Mines has set up a network of competent persons who are prepared to travel in order to carry out targeted mine-clearance operations. These teams are formed either during their service with peacekeeping operations in their respective countries or by former "Blue Helmets" who have already taken part in peacekeeping operations.

Conferences

IASP-Mines has set up a network of experts who are prepared to speak at any international conference on mine-clearance matters. It has also attended many conferences organized by the United Nations, including those in Geneva in 1995 and Vienna in 1996.

Development of operational techniques

IASP-Mines has produced a brochure of about 50 pages on "awareness and decontamination ... in the interest of peace through action ..." and has published a theoretical manual on mine clearance.

Public awareness

To promote public awareness, stands have been set up in Deauville (1997), Zurich (1998) and yearly at the Uni-Terre exhibition in Lyons. These stands comprise an exhibition of photographs, drawings and explanatory diagrams showing mines and the dangers they represent, as well as simulated mine-clearance operations.

Planned creation of a school to teach about mine clearance, security in humanitarian operations and peacekeeping

In comparing their experience acquired in the field during United Nations missions or during activities organized by IASP, the members of the Association have noted the following major issues:

- The training in mine-clearance operations provided by the armed forces of different countries is by no means standardized. This variation makes it extremely complicated, sometimes inefficient and even dangerous for personnel of different nationalities to coordinate United Nations operations;
- It is unfortunate that different people's experiences are not compared in order to improve mine-clearance techniques;
- There are also problems relating to peacekeeping techniques and security in the field.

This project will help to implement the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly relating to the establishment of a standing United Nations army.

Training centre

The role of the training centre will be to teach techniques for mine clearance, security in humanitarian operations and peacekeeping. It will be open to civilians having proven aptitude for such professions, to international non-governmental organizations, to senior national and international officials and to military personnel within the framework of cooperation agreements with the United Nations. Decentralized branches may be set up in areas of intense conflict where the international community is present.

Centre for research and documentation

It would be useful to set up a research facility so that different individual experiences can be compared and a unified method adopted.

Daytop Village Foundation

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

Aims and purposes of the organization

Daytop Village Foundation was established in response to multiple requests to provide technical assistance in the design and implementation of treatment programmes adapted for a particular target culture. Our concern is with the physical and psychological health aspects of drug and substance abuse. Our international projects are geared towards improving the quality of human life through education, prevention and effective treatment programmes. This is achieved through training and technical assistance in helping people develop their skills and abilities to solve their own problems and, ultimately, to regain control over their own lives and development. To date, Daytop has assisted in the establishment of treatment programmes in over 55 countries.

(a) The gathering of information and knowledge in the countries concerned, focusing on the national mood surrounding youth and the problem zone of acting-out disorders (mostly substance abuse, youth abandonment, delinquency and violence). This embraces the extent and intensity of the problem, current societal responses to the problem including legislation, criminal justice, and social and health remedies, as well as prevention activities. The country assessment includes identifying the leadership responsible for addressing the problem; it embraces a comprehensive inventory of what treatment/prevention currently exists; and, finally, it gathers early data on funding sources for action programming at the national and international levels.

(b) The formulation of a therapeutic community strategy in the nations concerned, centring upon the cultivation of promising linkages with potential leadership, as well as the orientation of available contacts in the civil and professional network.

(c) The scheduling of training workshops in therapeutic community methods for practitioners of mental health, social welfare, drug and alcohol treatment, health care, correction and education. The goal of each discreet workshop is to provide participants with concepts, methods, and skills that can be directly employed in their work setting and related systems.

(d) The scheduling of symposia at the Daytop International Training Component in New York. This training has proved to be most effective, since it offers carefully designed, well-rounded exposure to the didactic, as well as the experiential dimensions of the therapeutic community.

(e) The adapting of the therapeutic community model for application in prisons in Asia, South America and Eastern European countries.

(f) The developing of programmes in South America and in Asia to address the problem of street children.

(g) In the area of health, the development of programmes to address the problem of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and hepatitis in prevention and support systems.

Participation in Economic and Social Council and United Nations meetings

1995 Vienna:	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
New York:	Economic and Social Council
New York:	General Assembly
1996 Vienna:	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
New York:	Economic and Social Council
New York:	General Assembly
1997 Vienna:	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
New York:	Economic and Social Council
New York:	Special session on the world drug problem
New York:	General Assembly
1998 Vienna:	Commission on Narcotic Drugs
New York:	Economic and Social Council
New York:	General Assembly

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

Daytop participates in monthly meetings with the United Nations NGO Narcotics and Substance Abuse Committee to share information and plan for effective youth-focused programmes. Every year, Daytop observes the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking with member organizations represented in the United Nations NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse through organization awareness programmes on the national and international levels. Daytop's representative to the United Nations is presently the vice-chairman of the United Nations NGO Narcotics and Substance Abuse Committee. The United Nations NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse provides a working group representation. Daytop works closely with the United Nations and the respective United Nations bodies, the Colombo Plan, and Governments abroad in addressing the world's youth problems.

From 1995 to 1998 Daytop hosted a total of 200 international visitors and provided internships to 115 social workers from the private sector, medical practitioners and government officers from Albania, Argentina, Brazil, China, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, Egypt, Germany, Guyana, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom and Uruguay.

Daytop also hosted visits by the Malaysian Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, the Minister for Health from Sweden, the Governor of Yala, Thailand and the Consulate General of the Royal Thai Government.

The on-site training programmes covered the following areas: communicable disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, emotional/psychological, overview of drug abuse treatment, re-entry/aftercare, vocational/social skills and behaviour management. Daytop also provides ongoing technical assistance to government agencies and civil society abroad for effective treatment and rehabilitation of substance abusers, rehabilitation of prison inmates, and support and treatment programmes for juvenile delinquents and other high-risk groups.

In the last four years, Daytop conducted 75 international on-site training programmes for 4,000 social workers, medical practitioners, juvenile/family courts, departments of corrections, public health ministries and various government officers in Ireland, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Trinidad, Thailand, Viet Nam, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Pakistan, China, Singapore, Ecuador and Peru.

HelpAge International

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

Aims and purposes of HelpAge International

HelpAge International is a global network of not-for-profit organizations with a mission to work with and for disadvantaged older people worldwide to achieve a lasting improvement in the quality of their lives.

HelpAge International works to: develop its worldwide network of organizations working with and for older people; assist older people to achieve the fullest potential of which they are capable; provide direct support to older people made vulnerable by discrimination, conflict or natural disaster; and deepen public awareness of issues relating to ageing.

During the reporting period (1995-1998) HelpAge International's membership increased from 44 full and associate to 57 full and associate and 2 institutional members. Funding sources during this period did not change substantially. Help the Aged (United Kingdom), the United Kingdom Government (via the Overseas Development Administration) and the European Union were the organization's three most substantial donors, accounting for more than 80 per cent of income.

Affiliations to international NGOs also in consultative status included the following: during the period HelpAge International was affiliated to the International Council for Social Welfare, and the American Association of Retired Persons was a member of HelpAge International.

During the reporting period HelpAge International undertook the following activities with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies.

Assistance was rendered to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific through collaboration in organizing a seminar for the Mekong Basin countries (Bangkok 1997) and in the research and preparation of a number of publications, including the Annotated Bibliography on Policy and Programme Issues in the Field of Ageing (ST/ESCAP/1708), published in 1996; International and Regional Mandates on Ageing (ST/ESCAP/1807), published in

1997; and Lifelong Preparation for Old Age in Asia and the Pacific (ST/ESCAP/1684), published in 1996.

Assistance was rendered to the World Health Organization through the publication and distribution of "Ageing in Africa", published in 1997. Material on older people was supplied to the United Nations Population Fund for the publication of its State of the World's Population Report 1998 "The New Generations".

In operational work during the reporting period HelpAge International collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in relief work in Tanzania, the Balkans and Cambodia. In 1996 a workshop on HIV/AIDS was organized with the collaboration of the AIDS Control and Prevention project in Bangkok and the participation of the World Health Organization.

Assistance was rendered to the United Nations Ageing and Health Programme in its preparations for the United Nations International Year of Older Persons (1999).

HelpAge International participated in the expert group meeting "Meeting the Challenge of Ageing Populations in the Developing World" organized by the United Nations International Institute on Ageing, Malta, in 1995, and contributed to the report (INIA 1996).

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

Introduction

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) is an international, non-governmental organization of about 3,500 psychologists and allied social scientists who share a common interest in research, education, public policy and advocacy on the psychological aspects of important social issues. Formed in 1936 and incorporated independently, the Society is also Division 9 of the American Psychological Association (APA). The Society seeks to bring theory and practice into focus on human problems at the group, community, national and international levels. This is accomplished through conferences, grants and fellowships, the publication of *The Journal of Social Issues*, *The Social Psychology Application to Social Issues*, a variety of SPSSI-sponsored books and the *SPSSI Newsletter*.

During the 1995-1998 period, the Society maintained its international membership, as well as international representation on its governing Council. It provided opportunity for free membership to scholars and students in other countries, particularly those characterized by developing or transitional socio-political economies. There was no substantial change in the sources of the Society's funding during the period covered by this quadrennial review although there was an increase in income.

In addition to its accreditation to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the Society held consultative status with the United Nations Children's

Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI). While the Society was a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council, it was not affiliated with any international NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The Society collaborated with various non-governmental organizations and United Nations partners to identify persisting and emerging international issues, bringing to bear on those issues social science principles and findings that might help to promote the development and implementation of effective public policies and programmes. The Society also explored ways of bridging the work of social scientists and representatives of the United Nations system, developing opportunities for dialogue that contain the potential for illuminating and benefiting both perspectives.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and conferences

World conferences/observances

. Between 1995 and 1998, the Society participated actively in the preparatory processes for the World Summit for Social Development (1995), the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995), the United Nations Conference on the establishment of an International Criminal Court (1997) and the International Year of Older Persons (1999). An SPSSI representative also participated in Habitat II (1996) in Istanbul. Working through a broad range of NGO committees (on UNICEF, the status of women, human rights, crime prevention and criminal justice, sustainable development, and indigenous people), the Society's policy development and advocacy efforts involved: (1) developing, editing and sponsoring position papers and drafts of recommendations intended to influence the language of United Nations policy documents; (2) programmes to educate about United Nations conventions and related issues; and (3) consultative and advocacy outreach to United Nations agency representatives and members of the diplomatic community monitoring and supporting the implementation of United Nations conventions and action plans.

United Nations commissions

The Society's representatives actively and consistently followed the ongoing work of several United Nations commissions, particularly the Commission on Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Commission on Sustainable Development. In this context, the Society's interventions aimed to contribute to an appraisal of progress on the agenda of world conferences and to identify effective strategies for addressing emerging issues. In addition to developing and distributing position statements and hosting various issue panels, SPSSI United Nations/NGO representatives were selected to make brief statements to government delegates as representatives of international caucuses on ageing, violence against women, and mental health.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI)

SPSSI United Nations/NGO representatives regularly attended the weekly DPI/NGO briefings and served as panelists for briefings presented in collaboration with the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and the NGO Committee on Mental Health. The Society was represented consistently at the annual DPI/NGO Conferences.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

The Society continued its major commitment to children through its representation on the Board of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and consultative relationships with several UNICEF offices, particularly the Gender, Partnerships and Participation Section of the Programme Division. It is in the leadership of the working group on the rights of the child of the NGO Committee on UNICEF. In 1998, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this working group initiated a project to research and promote participation in and dissemination of country reports on the status of the implementation of children's rights at the country level. The Society held membership in two other working groups of the NGO Committee on UNICEF: The International Network on Girls and Children in Armed Conflict.

Division for the Advancement of Women

Through its active participation in the educational and advocacy activities of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, prior to and following the Beijing Conference in 1995, the Society consulted with representatives of the United Nations Secretariat Division for the Advancement of Women. By invitation of the Division, a representative of the Society served as a participant observer in the United Nations expert group meeting on adolescent girls and their rights, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 1997. The report developed at that meeting was presented as part of the background materials for the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women at their March 1998 session on enhancing the condition of girls.

World Health Organization

The Society served on the Board of the new NGO Committee on Mental Health, established in 1997, and worked with representatives of WHO in New York and Geneva to integrate consideration of psycho-social well-being and mental health concerns into the United Nations agenda. The Society, working with the NGO Committee on Mental Health, advocated for the inclusion of mental health issues within a broader context of lifespan concerns, such as vulnerable populations, human rights, poverty, violence, refugees, and substance abuse in the deliberative processes of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Commission on the Status of Women.

Other relevant activities

Actions to implement United Nations resolutions

The Society's work at the United Nations is broadly framed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with special focus on the following instruments: the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Declaration against Violence against Women, and action plans established at United Nations world conferences. The Society collaborated with other NGOs in calling for the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (on children and armed conflict and sexual exploitation of children).

Consultation and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

Reflecting on the programme of work outlined in Agenda 21 and the Earth Summit in August 1995, the Society held a consultation with representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the former Department for Economic and Social Information on potential social science contributions to the development of indicators for human development and early warning systems. The proceedings of the consultation were reported in the Newsletter of the Society and circulated within DPI.

In 1996 the Society reviewed the report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women (E/CN.4/1995/42). While positive about the report, the reviewers with expertise in judicial reform, social violence and its aftermath, treatment of victims of abuse, police procedures, cultural contexts and family development, made concrete suggestions for policy development and implementation. The review was sent to officials of the United Nations Secretariat and specialized agencies and a number of United Nations missions and NGOs concerned with women's issues, children, youth, families, human rights, the law and/or mental health.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

The Society reported regularly on its activities with the United nations in its newsletter. It also continued to integrate the United Nations agenda within the meetings of national and international organizations of psychologists. For example, in August 1995, the Secretary-General of the World Summit for Social Development, His Excellency Ambassador Juan Somavia of Chile, was featured in a full day of programming at the annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in New York, including dialogue on focal issues of the Social Summit. In 1998, Dr. Patricia Licuanan, previous Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, gave two addresses: one on the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women; the other on the role of psychologists in social transformation. The Society contributed to the formation of a joint American Psychological Association/ Canadian Psychological Association initiative on ethnopolitical conflict to address research and training issues on the causes and solutions to ethnopolitical warfare. Aiming to develop a publication on this topic, an international symposium was hosted in Derry, Northern Ireland, June/July 1998, hosted by the Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity of the University of Ulster. The Society also contributed to a special 1998 issue of *Peace & Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology* on the United Nations report by Graça Machel on reducing the impact of armed conflict on children.